



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 167

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, MARCH 1, 2021

No. 38

Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, who commands the morning to appear, we place our trust in You. Lord, You keep us from dishonor. Continue to show our lawmakers the path where they should fall. Point them to the right road. When they have doubts, remove their uncertainty with Your wisdom. When they have fears, remind them that You are their refuge and strength. When they experience failure, strengthen them to rise again. Lord, lead them by Your truth and teach them how to honor You.

We pray in Your matchless Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Pursuant to S. Res. 29, the Secretary of the Senate-elect will now present herself to the desk to take the oath of office.

Sonceria Ann Berry, escorted by Mr. SCHUMER, advanced to the desk of the President pro tempore, and the oath prescribed by law was administered to her by the President pro tempore.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Congratulations, Madam Secretary. (Applause.)

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

NOTIFYING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF THE ELECTION OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, it is a proud day for the Senate, and I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 78, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 78) notifying the President of the United States of the election of the Secretary of the Senate.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 78) was agreed to.

(The resolution is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

NOTIFYING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ELECTION OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 79, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 79) notifying the House of Representatives of the election of the Secretary of the Senate.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 79) was agreed to.

(The resolution is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader.

SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, we begin this week on a joyful note: welcoming an outstanding individual to serve as the new Secretary of the Senate, Ann Berry from the office of one Senator PATRICK LEAHY.

The position of the Secretary of the Senate dates back to April 8, 1789, just 2 days after the Senate achieved its first quorum. Today, 1 day after the conclusion of Black History Month and on the first day of Women's History Month, Ann Berry was just sworn in as the first Black woman to ever serve as Secretary of the Senate—another glass ceiling broken.

It is a testament to her outstanding career as a public servant of the highest caliber. Over her 40 years in Washington, Ann has come to know the ins and outs of the Senate better than just about anyone else who works in the Capitol Complex. She came to Washington, a proud native of Birmingham,

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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